



CARLTON
ACADEMY TRUST

Carlton Academy Trust

Looked After Children Policy

Approved on behalf of Trustees:

Gareth Logan

Date:

September 2023

Next Review Date:

September 2024



Glossary

DLAC:	Designated teacher/staff member for Looked After Children
DOS:	Trust Director of Safeguarding
DSL:	Designated Safeguarding Lead
HOS:	Head of School
LA:	Local Authority
LAC:	Looked After Child
Parents:	Umbrella term also including Parents
PLAC:	Previously Looked After Child
VSH:	Virtual School Head

Policy Statement and Definitions

The trust is committed to supporting LAC and PLAC students to meet their full potential.

A **LAC** is in the care of the LA and/or provided with accommodation by the LA for a continuous period of more than 24 hours.

A **PLAC** are students that were previously looked after by the LA but ceased to be because of a Child Arrangements, Special Guardianship or Adoption order.

The **VSH** is an LA officer responsible for promoting the educational achievement of LAC/PLAC and providing information and advice to schools and parents.

The educational attainment of LAC/PLAC nationally is significantly lower than other students at all key stages. This is frequently due to disrupted learning caused by experiencing or observing distressing or traumatic experiences and/or missing extended periods of school.

Responsibilities

Trustees

Trustees must ensure schools are aware of and properly expedite their responsibilities to LAC/PLAC. This includes ensuring each school has a DLAC with appropriate seniority, training, and experience.

HOS must ensure they appoint an appropriately senior, trained, and qualified designated DLAC, and procedures are in place to monitor the admission, progress, attendance, and suspensions and exclusions of LAC/PLAC students.

DLAC

Is the central point of contact within schools for LAC/PLAC students, coordinating provision and removing barriers to learning. Main responsibilities include:

- Providing staff training and guidance to help them better meet the educational and social needs of LAC/PLAC.
- Keeping parents informed of educational provision relating to their child.
- Facilitating multi-agency working to address the needs of LAC/PLAC.
- Promote a culture in which LAC/PLAC students can express their wishes and needs and have them taken seriously.



- Ensure there are positive and productive relationships with 'home', fully involving them in their education.
- Ensure safeguarding concerns are dealt with quickly and effectively.
- Ensure they have full access and priority for academic interventions, tuition or similar.
- Have lead responsibility for the development and implementation of Personal Education Plans, setting and reviewing individual targets to the agreed schedule.
- To arrange their attendance or suitable others at care planning meetings and statutory reviews.

DSL

- Maintaining accurate and confidential records of student's social worker and VSH, promptly forwarding these to a new school when appropriate.
- Where a child ceases to be LAC, keeping accurate contact details of their LA Personal Advisor and liaising with them as necessary for any issues of concern.

All Staff

- Have an overview and understanding of the key issues affecting LAC/PLAC they teach or encounter.
- Have high aspirations for LAC/PLAC ensuring they are appropriately supported to achieve their potential.
- Look to develop the confidence and esteem of LAC/PLAC students.
- Maintain confidentiality relating to LAC/PLAC students.

DOS:

- Provide 'supervision' sessions for DLAC.
- Report to trustees on the educational and social progress of LAC/PLAC.

